

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

MONDAY 9:00 A.M. MAY 18, 1998

PRESENT:

Joanne Bond, Chairman
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
Jim Shaw, Commissioner

Betty Lewis, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Howard Reynolds, Assistant County Manager
Madelyn Shipman, Legal Counsel

ABSENT:

Mike Mouliot, Vice Chairman
Sue Camp, Commissioner

The Board met in special session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

98-438 AGENDA

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Bond ordered that the agenda for the May 18, 1998, meeting be approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no response to the call for public comments.

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THE BOARD CONVENED AS THE SIERRA FOREST FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

98-439 TENTATIVE BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 1998/99

9:00 a.m. This was the time set in a Notice of Public Hearing published in the Reno Gazette-Journal on May 8, 1998, for consideration and possible adoption of the tentative budget for fiscal year 1998/99. Proof was made that due and legal Notice had been given.

Jerry McKnight, Director of Budget and Finance, stated that the Sierra Forest Fire Protection District is not proposing any tax increases but is proposing to start charging a fee for plan checks, a service they have always provided free of charge in the past.

Dan Holbrook, Fire Management Officer, reviewed the Nevada Division of Forestry budget requests highlighting changes from the previous year's budget.

Commissioner Galloway requested additional information regarding how the increases compare to the population increase and further

requested a comparison of how the SFFPD is handling the 2-in /2-out requirement as compared to how Truckee Meadows is complying. Chairman Bond requested statistics on the number of plan checks the District does and how much they are going to charge.

Chairman Bond opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak concerning the proposed budget.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Shaw, which motion duly carried, Chairman Bond ordered that the public hearing concerning the fiscal year 1998/99 budget be continued to May 26, 1998.

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THE BOARD RECONVENED AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

98-440 TENTATIVE BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 1998/99

9:00 a.m. This was the time set in a Notice of Public Hearing published in the Reno Gazette-Journal on May 8, 1998, for consideration and possible adoption of the tentative budget for fiscal year 1998/99. Proof was made that due and legal Notice had been given.

Jerry McKnight, Director of Budget and Finance, stated that no property tax increases are reflected in the proposed budget. He further explained the changes that had not yet been discussed with the Board having to do with funding for the mental health competency program, the homeless service center and drop-in center, and the contract with David Bennett, the consultant who assists the County with programs designed to reduce the jail population.

Chairman Bond opened the public hearing by calling on anyone wishing to speak concerning the proposed budget.

Speaking on behalf of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, District Attorney Richard Gammick stated that their committee voted unanimously that David Bennett's contract be renewed in full and that they are very concerned that cutting back on the services provided by this kind of consultant could be very detrimental. He explained what would happen if the jail was put under a federal mandate because of the continuing overpopulation problem and that the advantage of continuing Mr. Bennett's contract is that he does this consulting work all over the country and is knowledgeable about all the other ideas and methods that have been tried in many other places. The Board requested a report regarding Mr. Bennett's accomplishments.

Ernest Nielsen, Washoe County Senior Law Project, stated that the senior population is expanding rapidly; that that group is the most vulnerable section of the population; and that the Public Administrator has got to have more case workers because the ratio of 46 cases per case manager is not acceptable.

Mr. McKnight also advised that the State Taxation Department does not agree with the way the County has budgeted for tax delinquencies and has also requested a document showing the on-going personnel costs associated with capital projects.

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Shaw, which motion duly carried, Chairman Bond ordered that the public hearing concerning the fiscal year 1998/99 budget be continued to May 26, 1998.

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There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

JOANNE BOND, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

ATTEST: JUDI BAILEY, County Clerk